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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 7035-0004

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By:

Sandy Baldwin
Sandy Baldwin

O I P E
JAN 21 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of DINELLO, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1641

Serial No.: 09/823,868

Examiner: Nguyen, Bao Thuy L.

Confirmation No.: 7040

Filed: March 30, 2001

RECEIVED

For: PREWETTING STOP FLOW TEST STRIP

JAN 24 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 11, 2002, with a shortened period of one-month for response. Accordingly, an extension of time in which to respond is requested and a Petition and fee therefor accompany this response.

The Examiner therein required election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I, claims 1-27, drawn to a test strip;

Group II, claims 28-45, drawn to a sandwich method for detecting an analyte; and.

Group III, claims 46-63, directed to a competitive method for detecting an analyte.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group II, claims 28-45, without traverse. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 USC §121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application.

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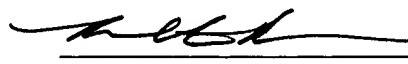
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-3117.

Dated: 1/13/03

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Respectfully submitted,
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